

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 is independent. In this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Support for the amendments of the claim can be found on, for example, page 5, line 12 to page 6, line 19 of the specification, and Figs. 1 and 2.

II. The Objection to the Specification

Objection has been made to the title of the invention. The title has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

III. The Objection to the Claim 1

The Examiner asserted that the claim language of claim 1 does not comply with the drawings. Although Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's position, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. Withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

IV. The Rejection of Claims 1-3

Claims 1-3 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yonehara et al. In the statement of the rejection, the Examiner asserted that Yonehara et al. discloses a plasma display panel identically corresponding to what is claimed.

Applicant submits that Yonehara et al. does not disclose a plasma display panel including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1, which reads:

1. A plasma display panel comprising:

a first dielectric layer having a substantially rectangular shape for covering a display electrode and a front substrate, the display electrode being formed on the front substrate and including a scan electrode and a sustain electrode;

a second dielectric layer having a substantially rectangular shape for covering a data electrode and a back substrate, the data electrode being formed on the back substrate; and

a barrier disposed on the second dielectric layer, wherein

at least one of the first dielectric layer and the second dielectric layer in plane view has four corners with a radius of curvature of other than zero, and each of the four corners is where two sides of the substantially rectangular shape meet.

At least one of the first dielectric layer and the second dielectric layer may be formed by firing a precursor material layer transferred from a transfer film, or may be formed by firing a precursor material layer having photosensitivity. The precursor material may have a substantially rectangular shape. The four corners of the substantially rectangular shaped precursor material can be rounded.

Yonehara et al. pertains to a PDP with high picture quality. Yonehara et al. in Fig. 1 and relevant description (e.g., paragraphs [0035]-[0036]) discloses barrier 30 disposed on back dielectric layer 23 of the PDP. Barrier 30 has main barriers 31 and sub barriers 32 extending in a direction perpendicular to main barriers 31. The reference further describes that the edge of sub barrier 32 is rounded (other than 0 curvature) (see, e.g., Fig. 5). Yonehara et al. in Fig. 1 further discloses that a front substrate of rectangular transparent dielectric layer 13 and back dielectric layer covers nearly the entire data electrodes 22 and display electrodes 12.

Furthermore, Yonehara et al. describes a manufacturing method of back dielectric layer 23 and barrier 30 (Fig. 1 and paragraph [0030]-[0031]). For example, paragraph [0030] describes coating an entire surface of substrate 21 with dielectric glass paste and firing the paste to form the back dielectric layer. However, there is no description in Yonehara et al. supporting that back dielectric layer 23 as well as transparent dielectric layer 13 has rounded corners (radius other than 0).

In contrast, claim 1 recites that a barrier is disposed on the second dielectric layer, and at least one of the first dielectric layer and the second dielectric layer in plane view has four corners with a radius of curvature of other than zero. As a result of the claimed dielectric layer, it is possible to reduce a concentration of the stress generated at the four corners, and prevent peeling or cracking of dielectric layer from the four corners.

Based on the foregoing, it is clear that Yonehara et al. does not disclose a plasma display panel including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1 within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §102. Dependent claims 2 and 3 are also patentably distinguishable over Yonehara et al. at least because these claims respectively include all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Applicant, therefore, respectfully solicits withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3 and favorable consideration thereof.

V. Conclusion

It should, therefore, be apparent that the imposed rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

Application No.: 10/507,312

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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